

Foreword

In North Carolina, the N.C. Department of Labor enforces the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act through a state plan approved by the U.S. Department of Labor. NCDOL offers many educational programs to the public and produces publications to help inform people about their rights and responsibilities regarding occupational safety and health.

When reading this guide, please remember the mission of the N.C. Department of Labor is greater than just regulatory enforcement. An equally important goal is to help citizens find ways to create safe workplaces. Everyone profits when managers and employees work together for safety. This booklet, like the other educational materials produced by the N.C. Department of Labor, can help.

Cherie Berry
Commissioner of Labor

Overview

This industry guide is designed to assist employers in general industry in developing a comprehensive safety and health program with best practices to be tailored to your own operation. We encourage you to customize the information in this industry guide as necessary to accomplish this goal. You may also copy any of the material in this guide to be used in your safety and health efforts.

This guide is provided as a best practice and compliance aid. It does not constitute a legal interpretation of OSHA standards, nor does it replace the need to be familiar with and follow the actual OSHA standards (including any North Carolina-specific changes.) ***Though the programs contained in this document are intended to be consistent with OSHA standards, if an area is considered by the reader to be inconsistent, the OSHA standard should be followed. Please note that this guide may not include all the programs and policies that may be required by OSHA standards or as a best practice for your specific operation or industry. It may also include more programs than are needed for your operation.***

The N.C. Department of Labor (NCDOL) Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Division's Consultative Services Bureau can be contacted for assistance in helping you set up your individual safety and health management program and with on-site surveys. Feel free to contact them at 1-800-NC-LABOR (1-800-625-2267) or at 919-807-2899. You may also want to visit their website at <http://www.nclabor.com/osha/consult/consult.htm>

For training events, publications, PowerPoint presentations and standard interpretations, please contact the Education, Training and Technical Assistance (ETTA) Bureau at 919-807-2875 or access their website at <http://www.nclabor.com/osha/etta/etta.htm>.